

Mining News of the Great Southwest

RICH COPPER DEPOSIT NEAR EL PASO

Promising Properties in the Quitman Mountains

(By William B. Phillips, director of the Bureau of Economic Geology of the University of Texas)

I have just completed a second visit to the Quitman mountains, El Paso county, and the results of observations made there may be of interest to mining men reached through The Herald.

The Quitman mountains are south of the Southern Pacific railway, at and near the junction of the west of Sierra Blanca. They extend from the railroad to the Rio Grande and attain an elevation of more than 6000 feet.

On the west side of the main range and near the S. P. well the granite carries ores of lead and zinc, with a little copper. On the west side, where the carboniferous limestone is much more extensively developed than on the east side, the values lie in the copper ore, although some shipments of silver-bearing galena have been made from time to time.

At the old Bonanza mine, east side, the Republic Mining and Milling company, has a mill and concentrating plant for the treatment of lead-zinc ore. The process used was the Sinton-Steele dry concentrating process, which has been further developed and much improved by R. C. Canby, of El Paso. The mill has not been in operation for some time, but it is reported that it is soon to be started again.

When I was there several years ago the tables were making very clean concentrates both of galena and zinc blend, and I saw to reason why, with improved machinery and careful management, the enterprise should not succeed.

The lead concentrates are taken by the El Paso smelters, but the zinc has to go to Colorado or Kansas. There is good ore in the old Bonanza. The carboniferous limestone, which is so extensively developed on the west side of the main range, is observable at one place on the east side, about a mile away between the Republic mill and Zimpelman's Pass. At this place, however, it carries no values.

Copper Bearing Ore. On the west side of the main range and

beginning at a point about three miles south of Lasca are heavy outcrops of a hard, blue limestone which is probably carboniferous, but I do not concern myself so much with its age as with its mineral contents. It can be readily traced for nearly three miles and exhibits about the same qualities throughout this area. It is traversed by heavy outcrops of gossan, the so-called float of the prospectors, and in every case copper ores have been found under them, malachite, azurite, chrysocolla, chalcocite and bornite. These gossans frequently contain bunches of silver-bearing galena, with now and then crystals of wulfenite (molybdate of lead), but this area is not to be regarded as a first-class district of these copper ores that have been made.

It is a copper district of considerable promise and very little attention need be given to the lead ores. If these are sinking about 600 feet, the cost of the shipments that have been made.

Several cars of copper ore have been shipped and the average of the hand-picked stuff was close to 18 percent in copper and 22 in gold. The best ore that has been taken out gave 24 percent copper, 39 ounces silver and 1.22 ounces gold. The wagon haul to the railroad is \$1 a ton, with a possible reduction to 75 cents. The freight to El Paso is \$1.25 a ton, so that the total cost of wagon and railroad freight is \$2.25 a ton.

Water Not Plentiful. There is not much water in the Quitman mountains for operations on a considerable scale, but the Rio Grande is only a few miles distant. It is likely that much additional water could be obtained through wells sunk on the east side in the granite. Some mine water may be encountered on the west side, especially near the contact of the limestone and granite, but there are no shafts deep enough to warrant a positive opinion on this point.

The copper values in the limestone do not always occur in immediate proximity to the blue of contact with the granite or with the porphyry. The best looking prospect that I saw is iron 200 to 250 feet below the contact, where there is no granite at all. At this place there

is an ore body of 20 feet in thickness that will carry from 2 to 4 percent of copper, mine run, while the cobbed material goes to about 15 percent. In this hard limestone there has been very little leaching, with subsequent enrichment at some lower level. The ore sets in almost from the surface and the shaft from which the best material has been shipped is only 25 feet in depth. So far as present observations go it seems likely that the ore will be fairly uniform in quality, without exhibiting extreme variations in direction. It is likely to carry some gold at all times and now and then from one-quarter to one-half an ounce, the gold being associated more with the pyrite than with the chalcocite. The purpose of this visit was to ascertain to a factor of great advantage, although it may not be higher than one-quarter of an ounce.

Promising District. Here is a copper district of good promise within 80 miles of El Paso, with a freight rate of \$1.25 a ton, easy accessibility, with a splendid climate and good shipping facilities. It is practically untouched and is likely to afford excellent ore at comparatively shallow depths. While it may not prove to be a great producer yet the continuity of the leads, as shown by the present workings, would justify the opinion that profitable operations can be carried on there for a number of years.

Within a mile of Sierra Blanca station, where the Texas & Pacific railway makes connection with the Southern Pacific, there is a 200-foot shaft on another promising copper deposit. The ore here is more siliceous than on the west side of the Quitman and is more brecciated and broken. However, the siliceous ores may disappear in depth and be replaced by the sulphides.

In the reports of the Texas geological survey 1888-1892, W. H. Von Sirovitzky described the general conditions prevailing at that time in the Quitman mountains and the opinions of that careful and accurate geologist are set forth at some length. Very little has been done there during the last 17 years, but the opening of the copper deposits, on the west side, during the last year or so has given additional reasons for the hope that this mineral district will soon receive the attention it merits.

use the electrolytic process of precipitation instead of zinc, thereby obviating the necessity of retining. Using lead cathodes and iron anode poles to a battery of about seven cells with high amperage, a product of 700 to 900 fine is obtainable, ready for the mint.

Discovered in 1880. The Steeple Rock district was discovered in 1880. The Carlyle mine was operated between 1880 and 1886 with a 60-stamp mill, producing \$2,000,000 in gold. It was formerly owned by N. K. Fairbank, of Chicago, and was finally sold to an English company, and controlled by the Exploration company of London, of which the Rothschilds are main owners. The main shaft reached a depth of 700 feet. There are now 600,000 tons of milling gold ore in eight runs, running from \$4 to \$10 gold a ton. H. J. Armstrong is general manager.

GLOBE GOLD MINE GETS GOOD VALUES Cross Cut Encounters Rich Ore as Is Found in the Queen Shaft.

Courtland, Ariz., Feb. 8.—The incline shaft on the Globe Gold Mine company's Frone claim, two miles north of Courtland, has passed the 200-foot level and the value has increased from \$15 to \$50. Many beautiful free gold specimens have been taken from the bottom of the shaft during the past week, and the fact that Courtland has a real gold mine is becoming evident to all who visit this new property.

The holdings of the Globe Gold Mining company consists of four and a half claims, approximately 90 acres of mineral land, and is about seven miles south of the old Commonwealth mine at Pearce from which many millions in gold and silver have been taken during the last dozen years. Work is now being done on a new vein, but will be replaced with a modern hoisting plant.

The mine is the only gold mine in Arizona without a waste dump. There are fully 10,000 tons of ore on the dump of which will be used to show a beautiful string of colors. The porphyritic formation shows more quartz and is getting harder and carries more of the yellow material as depth is gained.

A crosscut has been run both ways at the 50-foot and 100-foot levels and the same grade of ore as found in the shaft encountered, making the known ore body an immense one.

BISBEE MINING NOTES. Bisbee, Ariz., Feb. 8.—A steam hoisting plant, which will be ready for use in a few days, is being installed at the Spruce extension station near the Spruce shaft. The purpose of this work is to put to work as soon as the engine is in its place and sinking operations will resume.

Drilling work is being carried on at the property of the Bisbee-Arizona Mining company. The drilling is being done from the 500-foot level. The Bisbee Sopora Mining company is developing to a great extent its property, which it has refused to sell at good advances.

Contract work has been started for tunneling into Sacramento hill, opposite the C. & A. hospital between Pearce and Lowell. The purpose of this work is to ascertain whether the place contains carbonate ores of high grades, as the experts say.

The alarming reports about the Calumet & Arizona mining company seem unjustified in view of the fact that the company has lately spent about one million dollars to develop claims and properties located in the Warren and Courtland districts. The company is anxiously watching operations in the Irish mine where it is hoped to encounter the rich sulphide ore found at the Oliver shaft.

Sinking at the Briggs shaft of the Superior and Pilsburg Copper company

GOLD ROAD MILL INCREASES ITS CAPACITY

John Hays Hammond Fails to Take the Bi-Metal at Kingman.

Goldroad, Ariz., Feb. 8.—The Gold Road mill picked up steadily the last 15 days and is now shipping each week precipitates aggregating \$60,000 per month.

Nearly all the ore is being drawn from the 500 foot stopes and since the ore blocked out in the three lower levels is known to be of a better grade, the mill output is expected to increase from this time. Air shaft No. 2, situated 700 feet west from the Billy Bryan shaft, is down 29 feet and is being equipped with hoist and machine drills preparatory to sinking about 600 feet. The 700 foot level of the Bryan shaft and the 500 of the main working shaft are connected by a drift 1500 feet long, and it is to be ventilated this long slope that a second air shaft is being sunk.

Though the ore blocked out in the mine is estimated to run the mill more than four years, manager Phillips is already planning extensive development work to begin soon. The use in every department of mine and mill of electric power generated at the Kingman plant is quite satisfactory and its advantage in efficiency and economy over the former steam and gasoline power has been thoroughly demonstrated.

Kingman Camp. The Bi-Metal mine in the Kingman district is no longer under bond to John Hays Hammond, its manager, E. M. Lamont, returned from a final conference with B. F. Keith representing Hammond in Los Angeles, and announced that though the mine had held up to all examinations, terms could not be agreed upon. Lamont left at once for Denver to arrange for the erection of a larger mill, which will probably include 40 stamps and four Huntington's. The Bellflower prospect, three miles west of the Bi-Metal, has been bought by Roche and Jones to H. M. Bowen and associates of Los Angeles. Bowen has installed a hoist and compressor and started sinking at a depth of 40 feet, where two feet of ore averaging \$50 in gold have been exposed.

Mineral Park. S. R. Porter, of Los Angeles, arrived recently and established a camp at the old Keystone mine, which he bonded a few months ago. He has put a small force of men to work pending the arrival of machinery, several cars of which are already on the way.

has reached a depth of 1200 feet. As a quantity of water has been found at that level, sinking cannot proceed further until the water is pumped out. The ore encountered at the Junction shaft between the 1300 and 1500 foot levels has proved to be more extensive than it was thought.

ONCE POSTOFFICE BEING TORN DOWN Building East of the Federal Building Once Served as Postoffice.

The two story brick and adobe building to the east of the postoffice, which is now being razed to make room for a new four story building to be erected from the corner to the postoffice property line, once served itself as a postoffice for El Paso.

H. L. Capell says that when he arrived in El Paso in August, 1882, Mrs. Panny Porter was postmaster and had the postoffice in the building that is now being torn down. Mrs. Porter was the widow of an army officer and later died at San Antonio.

The Times was published in the same building with the postoffice when Mr. Capell arrived here.

DEJECTED GIRL ENDS LIFE; LEAVES PATHETIC NOTE. Niagara Falls, N. Y., Feb. 8.—Dejected because of the death of her fiance, George F. Myers, Beatrice R. Snyder, of Buffalo, committed suicide by wading into the river just above Prospect point and going over the American falls. As the body swept over the brink of the cataract she turned her face toward her would-be rescuers and smiled a farewell to them.

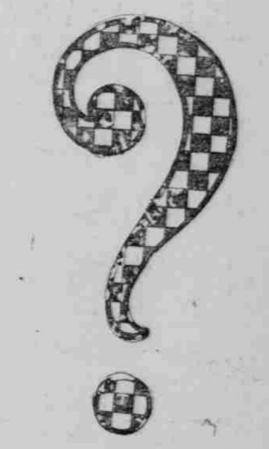
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was found in a handbag. It reads: "Mama and Papa: May you both forgive me for bringing this awful disgrace upon you in these years of your life. Also, may our heavenly father forgive all my sins. But I have been very good, thank God. You will find a slip for the money under your dressers scarf. With my heart full of love for all your kindness and tender love, good bye. "Lovingly, "Beatrice."

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BOSTON MEN TO WORK MANY CLAIMS IN THE STEEPLE ROCK DISTRICT

Modern Methods to Be Employed and Machinery and Fuel Will Be Bought in El Paso.

The resurrection of old districts in the southwest was particularly in New Mexico, after years of innocuous desuetude, is well illustrated every day by reports from the mining field brought by returning mining engineers and operators who pass through this city daily.

Twenty years ago the wonderful production of the Carlyle Gold mine in the Steeple Rock district of western Grant county, New Mexico, was the talk of all mining men in the southwest. Finally water was struck and the ore became too low grade to deal with by the then current methods and operations were stopped, and have continued so ever since until lately.

W. C. Marshall, superintendent of the American Exploration and Mining company is at the St. Regis, lately engaged in preparing a report on the properties for the directors, who will leave Boston on February 15 to meet him and receive it. The properties of this company, composed of Bostonians who recently acquired these mines, paying \$50,000 therefor, consist of 14 claims adjoining the old Carlyle mines on the east.

Gets Rich Vein. "What impressed me the most on arriving on the ground," said Mr. Marshall, "was that Steeple Rock has lain dormant for these many years, not on account of its location nor from lack of mineral, but because of the lack of up-to-date methods in treatment of ores and ignorance of the geological conditions so apparent to the new comers."

"I found that hundreds of feet of expensive work had been done and hundreds of thousands of dollars had been thrown away in this manner. As you will see by this plan the former owners had sunk a vertical shaft through the vein which was dipping to the east and sunk down through barren rock passing away from the vein. Seeing this obvious fact, I ran a cross cut and in a few feet cut through the vein 18 feet wide which gives a general average of \$26 a ton in gold and silver values, carrying only three and a half percent iron, for a width of eight feet. The remainder of the vein runs from six to eight dollars a ton for ten feet."

"I found also that the vein was continuous for 700 feet from south to north and traced it to the mill site, and

The Swine or the Flower? Ah me! I saw a huge and loathsome sty, wherein a drove of wallowing swine were bared. Whose banquet shocked the nostril and the eye; Then spoke a voice, "Behold the source of lard!" I fled, and saw a field that seemed at first One glistening mass of roses pure and white. With dewy buds 'mid dark green foliage nursed. And, as I lingered o'er the lovely sight, The summer breeze, that cooled that Southern scene, Whispered, "Behold the source of COTTOLENE!"

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MRS. BELO MAKES DONATION TO MUSEUM

Mrs. Winkler, Recently from Texas, Receives Assistance in Furnishing the Texas Room.

Mrs. A. V. Winkler, of this city, regent for Texas of the Confederate Museum, of Richmond, Va., has received from Mrs. A. H. Belo, of the Galveston and Dallas News, \$100 donation toward the endowment of the Texas room at the Confederate Museum.

Two thousand dollars is required to place the room upon a safe financial basis. Mrs. Belo presented the room several years ago with a bronze tablet in memory of Col. Belo.

AMUSEMENTS.

"MISS HOBBS."

The Bailey Stock company pleased another large house last night with the laughable comedy, "Miss Hobbs," the great New York success. The same bill will run the rest of the week with a Saturday matinee.

AT THE EMPIRE THEATER.

The management of the Empire theater, 213 south El Paso street, is sparing no expense, it declares in securing the latest and most up to date pictures for its patrons. This theater caters to the best class of trade, especially men and children. All pictures are positively new and the program is changed every day. The program for tonight is "The

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